

**County of San Luis Obispo  
HEALTH COMMISSION**

Minutes of Meeting

Monday, February 6, 2006 (Board of Supervisors Chambers)

Members Present: Penny Chamousis (Acting Chair), Debby Donnelly, Tom Hale, M.D., Pam Heatherington, Sara Horne, James Mase, M.D., David Odell, Donald Pinkel, M.D.

Members Absent: Lynn Enns (Chair), Jan Hicks, Susan Warren

Staff Present: Greg Thomas, M.D., Sonja Thompson (recorder)

Speakers: Mary Parker, PhD (Cuesta College)

Agenda Item	Discussion	Action	Who/When
1. CALL TO ORDER	Meeting called to order by Acting Chair Chamousis sitting in for Chair Enns at 6:08 p.m.		
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: January 9, 2005	Minutes of December 12, 2005 approved with no corrections.		1st – Horne 2nd –Pam Approved – All
3. PUBLIC COMMENT	<p><b>Eric Greening, Atascadero</b>, concerned with rate of sewage spills of various sizes increasing and question if our County has a central repository for the public to report symptoms after being in contact with the ocean. He suggested agendizing Ocean Water Quality from a human health perspective and how the County responds to symptoms reported.</p> <p><b>Jesse Arnold, Cambria</b>, spoke of genetic engineering specifically the myth of the Golden Rice that was developed by a Swiss scientist who genetically engineered vitamin A in rice to prevent people in third world countries from going blind. As a result of this never being tested, he's concerned with the continuing to spread this myth.</p> <p><b>David Broadwater, Center for Sludge Information</b> responded to Mr. Greening's concerns with sewage sludge spills that happen on the beach. There are annual reports that record the incoming pathogens being discharged and the concentrations in sludge and agrees there is more than just pathogens spilling into the ocean that are of serious health concerns.</p>		
4. CUESTA COLLEGE NURSING PROGRAMS	<b>Dr. Mary Parker, Director of Nursing and Allied Health and Anna Davies, Dean of School of Nursing, Cuesta College Nursing Program</b> , spoke about the programs offered at Cuesta College. They are anticipating enrolling 30 students in the LVN program in May. Currently, our County is in need of approximately 200 LVNs in extended care facilities, clinics, CMC and ASH. Compass Health teamed up with Cuesta and generously donated first year start up funds for an LVN program. After completion of the first year, the program may be open to the public. There is a need Statewide for paramedics, Cuesta plans to address the needs in our community and partner with Allan Hancock College to develop a program. Cuesta continues to work on developing the dental hygiene program with		

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	<p>anticipation of enrolling students in the Fall 2007. Presently, there are 120 students on the waiting list. The RN program will graduate 10 more students this year than in 2005 largely as a result of the partnership with acute care facilities from King City to Santa Maria.</p> <p><u>Commissioner Discussion:</u>  <i>Commissioner Donnelly asked about the ability for the LVN program to evolve into the RN program (Anna Davies explained the LVN program is a stand alone program designed for incumbent workers already in healthcare but students will have opportunity to transfer into an RN program). Commissioner Heatherington expressed concerns with a public institution being privatized for this program (Mary reiterated that Compass Health is providing funds to develop the program and will be paying facility salaries for the 1<sup>st</sup> year. Commissioner Hale asked how many students that dropped out could be replaced. (Mary stated 56 students were admitted this year and 54 will go into their 2<sup>nd</sup> year). Commissioner Hale asked if there is any opportunity for collaboration between Cuesta and Cal Poly on expanding programs. Mary indicated Cal Poly did not have an interest at this time).</i></p> <p>Mary introduced Gaye Galvan, Cuesta College Board of Trustees who is a wonderful support to the nursing program.</p>		
<p><b>5. TREATED SEWAGE SLUDGE / BIOSOLIDS INTERIM MORATORIUM ORDINANCE – Action</b></p>	<p>Dr. Thomas reminded commissioners of presentation on the Interim Ordinance given at the last meeting and the recommendation to extend for four years, which would limit biosolids treated sludge to historical amounts. The recommendation is on the Board of Supervisors Consent Agenda tomorrow and the hearing is scheduled for February 28<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><u>Commissioner Discussion:</u>  <i>Commissioner Horne referred to page 2 of the letter to the Board of Supervisors pointing out that EH Services is continuing development of a permanent biosolids ordinance. She requested an update be provided to the Commission on an annual basis. Commissioner Heatherington expressed concerns with other counties looking for a place to dump their sludge.</i></p> <p><u>Public Comment:</u>  <b>David Broadwater</b> endorsed the recommendation to extend the Interim Ordinance and reviewed the comparison charts, Sludge Historically Generated and Land Applied Annually in SLO County by South County Sanitation District and the Comparison of Heavy Metal Concentrations in two SLO County Sludges.</p> <p><b>Eric Greening</b> very strongly supports the motion as well. He addressed Commissioner Heatherington’s comment regarding larger urban publicly owned treatment works increasingly desperate to land apply their sludge. It is critical to retain our numerical limits so we are not attractive to a large source. He recommended reassembling the task force and</p>	<p><i><b>Motion was made that a letter be written to the Board of Supervisors supporting the recommendation to continue the Interim Ordinance for the next four years and to encourage the Board to explore a permanent ordinance, either by transitioning the Interim Ordinance or begin developing the goals for the permanent ordinance within the next year.</b></i></p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> – Hale  2<sup>nd</sup> – Horne  Approved – All</p>

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	<p>begin the process of working on a permanent ordinance.</p> <p><i>Commissioners Discussion:</i>  <i>Commissioner Donnelly thanked David for the continuous education on sewage sludge and requested clarification on who regulates the limits. Commissioner Heatherington also thanked David fore his tirelessly educating the Board of Supervisors and the Health Commission on this topic.</i></p>		
<p><b>6. CHILDREN'S ORAL HEALTH ISSUES – RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL CHILDREN'S DENTAL HEALTH MONTH</b></p>	<p><b>Greg Thomas, MD</b> presented the slide show that was developed by Dr. Kathy Phipps. Dr. Phipps has a PhD in Epidemiology specializing in oral heath and has worked with tribal councils and Native American communities. She previously addressed the First 5 Commission on oral health issues for children. The presentation focuses on Oral Health of Preschoolers in San Joaquin County, no data available for SLO county at this time. Key findings include dental decay is a significant public health problem for high-risk preschool children with 39% of 2-4 year olds had tooth decay, limited access to regular dental care and a large number of preschool children need dental care. Dr. Phipps recommendations for SLO County are to focus on both community-based and individual level interventions that target young children, develop dental public health infrastructure, and work on access to care issues.</p>	<p><i>Handouts:</i>  <i>Copy of PowerPoint Presentation</i></p>	

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<b>WATER FLOURIDATION IN SAN LUIS OBISPO COUNTY</b>	<p>Dr. Thomas pointed out that the Commission favored water fluoridation originally discussed in 2001. In March 2002, First 5 Commission researched the cost estimates to install fluoridation treatment equipment for SLO County water utilities. Dr. Thomas reviewed the some of the estimates outlined in the Cost Estimate prepared by Boyle Engineering.</p> <p><b><u>Public Comment:</u></b>  <b>Dr. Joe Mercadante, Past Health Commission member and President of the Central Coast Dental Society</b> quoted an article in The Tribune, “tooth decay is by far the most prevalent children’s health problem in the State.” He strongly agrees we should stop the disease before it occurs and that is what fluoride is all about. For the past 55 years, every Surgeon General has recommended water fluoridation. He is supports the recommendation of water fluoridation in support of children’s health.</p> <p><b><u>Commissioner Comments:</u></b>  <i>Commissioner Odell asked if there areas in SLO County that fluoridates water. (SLO City has fluoridated since 1954). Commissioner Donnelly asked if reverse osmosis removes fluoridation, Dr. Thomas confirmed in fact it does. Commissioner Pinkel discussed articles that ranked California 24 out of 25 that were surveyed with regard to dental disease by 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. He feels not fluoridating is child neglect and endangerment and he strongly recommends asking the Board of Supervisors to mandate water fluoridation.</i></p>	<p><i>Handouts:  Communication Points Regarding Community Water Fluoridation by the ADA and Cost Estimates to Install Fluoridation Treatment Equipment from Boyle Engineering.</i></p> <p><i>A motion was made that a letter be written to the Board of Supervisors recommending water systems throughout the County be fluoridated.</i></p> <p><i>A motion was made that a letter be written to the Water Districts urging them to pursue water fluoridation and a letter be written to the Board of Supervisors requesting they address the Water Districts as a public health measure.</i></p>	<p>1<sup>st</sup> – Horne  2<sup>nd</sup> – Hale  Approved – All</p> <p>1<sup>st</sup> – Hale  2<sup>nd</sup> – Odell  Approved – All</p>
<b>6. PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT REPORT</b>	<p><b>Dr. Thomas</b> referred to his written report. A copy of the report is filed with the official record of this meeting.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ The Commission Budget committee met on 2/3/06. The budget is due 2/19/06.</li> <li>▪ Twenty cases of Varicella have been reported in school age children. Varicella vaccine is strongly recommended. Mandated for school entrance since 2001.</li> <li>▪ The Board of Supervisors voted to close the County Clinical Lab effective January 24<sup>th</sup>. Staff and CHC are working on the clinical lab transition. Draw stations will continue to be open and available to CHC patients and the public.</li> </ul>	<p>Handouts:  <i>Copy of Director’s Report</i></p>	

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7. <b>HEALTH COMMISSION UPDATES</b>	<p><b>Chair Update:</b> No report</p> <p><b>Commissioner Chamousis:</b> Attended the Adult Services Commission meeting on February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Health and wellness seminar, “Aging Well,” will be May 17<sup>th</sup> at Sycamore. Adult Abuse Prevention seminar will be May 5<sup>th</sup> centering on victims and victims advocacy. Policy Council is proposing to support letter on AB 1363 regarding Conservatorship.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Heatherington:</b> No Report</p> <p><b>Commissioner Pinkel:</b> No Report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Mase:</b> No Report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner O’Dell:</b> Mental Health Services Department is experiencing budget shortfalls this year which will have an affect on the entire Health Agency.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Horne:</b> No Report.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Hale:</b> Attended the budget committee meeting, which was very informative. Thank you to Dr. Thomas and staff for taking the time to help educate the Commissioners. Applications are out for the Public Health grants and community based organization funding and will begin the review process February 16<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Commissioner Donnelly:</b> No Report.</p>		
8. <b>COMMITTEE REPORTS</b>	<p><b>Legislative:</b> Did not meet this month.</p> <p><b>Nominating:</b> Did not meet this month. Meeting scheduled for February 27<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Community Education:</b> Meeting scheduled for February 17<sup>th</sup>.</p> <p><b>Budget:</b> Committee met, Dr. Thomas and staff presented budget.</p>		
9. <b>PROSPECTIVE FUTURE ITEMS</b>	<p>Next meeting will be March 13, 2006</p> <p><b>March 2006:</b> SLO County Pandemic Influenza Plan</p> <p><b>April 2006:</b> Regional Water Quality Control Board – Follow-up on Agricultural Water Testing (confirmed), Tri-Care/Veteran’s Hospital Care (confirmed with Mike Piepenberg)</p> <p><b>May 2006:</b></p> <p><b>Future:</b> General Plan with Park and Recreation with regards to physical activity and child obesity. Enns - (will be discussed between)</p>		
10. <b>ADJOURNMENT</b>	Motion to adjourn at 7:55 p.m.		Approved – All